HOUSEKEEPING AS A SCIENCE

QUICK SPREAD OF THE STUDY OF HOME ECONOMICS.

Training Given Now to Housewives in Schools, Universities and Railroad Cars. New Profession Which Women Originated and Are Developing.

In 1899 eleven persons gathered at the first meeting of the Lake Placid conference on home economics. At the meeting of the American Home Economics Association in Boston last Christmas 1,400 persons were present. That is a fair gauge of the growth of interest in the subject in the last ten years.

New York State has within three years established three State agricultural schools in addition to Cornell. All three have departments of home economics. Cornell itself is about to put in an elaborate equipment for instruction in household economics, including plants for a commercial bakery and for a commercial canning factory. President Schurman believes it will open up new and lucrative occupations for women. A prolonged campaign by the women's clubs of the State preceded this action at Cornell.

Teachers College in its new million dollar building gives now a two years course in the handling and management of the household and commissary departments of big institutions like asylums, college dormitories and hospitals, and it has already more applications for women to take charge of such work than it can fill. The usual salary offered is $1,000 a year and expenses, which is a good deal more than school teachers average in the grades and a very good salary to command after two years training.

Such salaries are not paid merely for cooking. Domestic science is something far wider than that. They are paid for keeping down household expenses, for getting value out of money, for serving better and more nutritious food on less money than was used before, for knowing how to market, how to run a house.

The University of Illinois has a commodious dwelling house as a part of its equipment for domestic science in which students are instructed in every branch of the care, decoration and cost of running a house. All the Western State universities and many others, practically all the agricultural colleges, many State normal schools, and great numbers of colleges and other institutions of higher learning. East as well as West, now include departments of domestic science.

In 1896 domestic science was taught in only eleven schools of New York city, all elementary schools in Manhattan. It is now taught in 174 elementary schools of the various boroughs, and in the last year the Board of Education voted to extend it to all the high schools, in some of which it was already installed. This is a sample of the way in which this new branch of education has spread in the public schools all over the country in the last ten years.

UNIVERSITIES TAKE IT UP.

In Newark they started in 1902 with two small classes, which worked at boards laid across wooden supports, without sinks, faucets or refrigerator. At the end of six weeks the pupils cooked and served a course dinner to the Board of Education whose members were present during the preparation of the meal. That settled it. Newark has now fourteen well equipped kitchens in its schools and more are added every year. One school trustee in another city after reading a little pamphlet written by the director of cooking on "The Mission of the Ideal Woman" wrote: "Could all mothers be like the ideal woman we should need no truant schools, no defective classes and no part time classes," ingeniously laying the blame not only for truants and defectives but also for lack of space in the schoolhouses on the bad cooking of the mothers.

The extension work of various universities in household science is surprising. The University of Illinois sent its lecturers in this subject to sixty other institutions in the last year. It holds an annual school for housekeepers two weeks in duration, and at the last session thirty-one counties of the State were represented among the pupils.

In Wisconsin the State university gives courses of lectures and demonstrations in cooking at farmers' institutes and holds a bakers' institute for professional bakers. Housekeepers' conferences, with demonstrations in the model kitchen of the university, are held by the University of Missouri, and the model kitchen is so arranged that it can be transferred to any point where its use is required.

Kansas State Agricultural College issues bulletins on breadmaking and other domestic subjects and holds lectures and demonstration courses in different parts of the State, sixteen of them last year. Iowa State Agricultural College gives such courses at farmers' institutes, women's clubs, county fairs, teachers' institutes, schools and colleges. One member of the college faculty gave in seven recent months 226 such lectures outside the college.

In Colorado the State Agricultural College holds extension courses one week in length all over the State, for which a fee of $1 is charged each pupil. The average number of women attending such courses is 200. At a session held in winter in a mining camp women walked to and from the class through the snow from points three miles distant.

COLLEGES IN RAILROAD CARS.

Cornell instituted the reading course for farmers' wives, which has now 11,800 members; it has organized rural women's clubs for the study of domestic and cultural subjects, and holds an annual home makers' conference during farmers' week at the college, with exhibits of the model kitchen, laundry equipment and labor saving devices of the home economics department of the university and lectures and demonstrations by members of the staff.

Two Southern States have developed the most ingenious system of taking the gospel of good cookery to the people. Maryland Agricultural College bought the second hand private car of a railroad superintendent, containing kitchen, hot water device and lockers for stores. It was fitted up with chairs, blackboards and stereopticon, with an apparatus for making acetylene gas for the latter. This car runs through the country to give lectures on domestic science and agriculture. Miss Anna Barrows of Teachers College has made lecture trips on this car.

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture runs two similar cars, which are furnished and hauled free of charge by one of the railroads of the State. These cars were used for thirty institutes last year, one of them being used for the agricultural lectures and the other for domestic science work. The superintendent reported that results were especially satisfactory with the latter car.

These cars come the nearest of anything in America to the travelling cooking schools of Germany and the travelling college of Italy in which the Department of Agriculture sends instruction to the farmers.

This new movement for scientific instruction in housework jumped directly from America to Japan. Miss Ume Tsuda's English Institute in Tokio is one of the three private institutions for higher education in Japan whose graduates receive Government license to teach in secondary schools without further examination. Miss Tsuda spent thirteen years in America completing her education by a post-graduate course at Bryn Mawr. Her domestic science department, the first in Japan, is under the charge of Miss Yoshi Kawashima, a graduate of Simmons college in Boston.

With hundreds of teachers being trained in the universities, with thousands of housewives in attendance at university extension courses and with millions of girls taking housework as part of their public school course, it seems likely that cooking and housekeeping are going to improve very signally in the United States. It is really a new thing in the history of the world that the taxpayers' money should be used to teach women how to keep house. This capture of public funds for such a purpose is due to the women themselves.

ORIGINATED IN THE BEECHER BRAIN.

It originated with American women and in the Beecher brain. So far as any investigator has been able to discover Catherine Beecher's Hartford Female Seminary, opened in 1821, was the first school in the world to teach girls anything about the care of the home. This was sixty-two years before the first public school kitchen opened in America. The book published by Catherine in collaboration with her famous sister Harriet in 1840 was the first book of the kind on the subject of domestic science.

Some things in that book make quaint reading nowadays. In her preface Catherine deposed that men can secure diplomas, certificates or other credentials which will fix their authority to speak on any given subject, but no such source exists from which she may draw credentials, and therefore she is obliged to state what authority she has to speak on the matter. She therefore relates her training under her mother, her aunt and her stepmother and tells what good cooks and housekeepers they all were.

"When the other sex," continues the preface, "are to be instructed in law, medicine or divinity they are favored with numerous institutions, richly endowed, with teachers of the highest talents and acquirements, with extensive libraries and abundant and costly apparatus. With such advantages they devote nearly ten of the best years of their lives to prepare themselves for their profession.

"Woman's profession embraces the care and nursing of the body at the critical periods of infancy and sickness; the training of the human mind in the most impressible period of childhood, and most of the government and economics of the family state. The duties of woman are as sacred and important as any ordained to man, and yet no such advantages for preparation have been accorded her."

The whole movement for the incorporation of domestic science in the educational system is essentially only a carrying out of the idea of the Beecher sisters as expressed in this paragraph.

The book opens with a chapter on "The Christian Family," and goes on to "The Christian Home." It treats of every household theme from moulding boards to the care of the sick, from rolling pins to sanitation, ventilation, dressmaking, care of infants, domestic amusements, social duties and the training of children. Each branch of which it treats has now a highly specialized literature of its own; nay, salads, soups, each feature of the menu has its own literature.

A pupil of Teachers College recently took various fabrics into her laboratory and produced a scientific report, which was published, accompanied with photographs, in which she showed the residue remaining of those fabrics after she had treated them with chemicals. She showed the linen remaining in a "pure linen" towel after her chemicals had removed the cotton; the wool left in an "all wool" dress fabric after the cotton in it had travelled the same path. Her report was made to demonstrate the need for Government labels to show genuine fabrics as well as pure food. Poor Catherine Beecher, telling what a good cook her stepmother was, would stand aghast at such work as this.

The Beecher pen in this old book preserved photographic pictures of American food, customs and family life sixty or eighty years ago, which make it one of the most interesting cook books ever written. The sisters constantly compare foreign conditions with those at home. "The tourist in England at the quietest inn can get a mutton chop done to a turn, a choice pot of marmalade, a slice of cold ham, good tea, delicate rolls and creamy butter. In France one never asks in vain for delicious café au lait, good bread and butter, a nice omelet or some savory little portion of meat. But for the country tourist in America what is the prospect? What is the coffee? What the tea and the meat? And above all—the butter?"

This in 1840, while woman's sphere was still the sacred stove. It may seem to indicate that the American woman could not cook even before she went to school or wanted to vote. Indeed the book throughout refers in gloomy terms to the culinary ability of those grandmothers who are held up as models and exemplars to-day.

FIRST SCHOOL KITCHEN.

In 1883 Boston women asked the privilege of fitting up a room in the basement of the Tennyson street public school as a kitchen, and providing instruction in domestic science at their own expense. The Superintendent of Buildings demurred, and finally granted them only a portion of the space they asked for. This room developed into Boston School Kitchen No. 1, the first in the world.

At the end of two years the city itself was running four school kitchens and instructing 1,400 girls. This has been the history all over the country. Invariably women outside the school, usually clubwomen, have pushed the introduction of the subject against more or less indifference or opposition on the part of school boards.

About 1880 a New York woman, Miss Emily Huntington, conceived a new idea in the education of small children. This was the kitchen garden, based on the idea of the kindergarten. In this, with diminutive furniture and to the accompaniment of little games and songs, children learned to do all sorts of housework.

A number of New York women, including Miss Huntington and Miss Grace Dodge, organized the Kitchen Garden Association, to open these little kitchen gardens for teaching small children housework. This was actually the origin of the great Teachers College, with its $1,000,000 plant. In 1890 the Kitchen Garden Association was transformed into the Industrial Education Association, with the object of securing instruction in all domestic subjects in the public schools. No teachers in these subjects could be found, and so the association opened a training school for them, which developed into Teachers College.

The agricultural colleges of the West took the lead in opening departments of domestic science and the thing is now general.

THE NEW PROFESSION.

Some far seeing persons can perceive in this movement the process of transforming an unskilled trade into a profession. A woman college graduate will not be a cook; but she will cook all day in front of a class. It is not the cooking she objects to, but the social rank. In the new profession she ranks as a teacher, and when she is invited to a house she goes in at the front door. Exactly what Florence Nightingale did for Mrs. Gamp when she invented the profession of trained nursing the leaders in the household economics movement are doing for the houseworker.

Despite all complaints of private housekeeping in the past and present some of the authorities declare it is likely that no class of untrained workers for whom there was no apprentice system and no trade schools anywhere ever did so well with their work as the housewives.

"Despite all modern facilities, improvements and methods," said Benjamin C. Andrews, secretary of the home economics department of Teachers College the other day, "the housewife's bread is still the best."

NOISY COLLEGE BASEBALL.

Criticism of a Feature of the Professional Game Adopted by Students.

President Pritchett in Scribner's Magazine.

Perhaps the most harmful feature of the professional game which the college boys have adopted is the continual chorus of cries on the part of the players as soon as the pitcher takes the ball in hand and gets ready to deliver it to the batter. Every player on the nine gives tongue, and the spectators are treated to one continual shower of puerile and silly cries.

The professionals do this partly with the idea of rattling their opponents, but chiefly with the purpose of covering up a complicated set of signals. Even in the professional games the practice is wholly inexcusable and takes away from the pleasure and the fairness of the game, but when introduced into the college games it is vulgar beyond expression.

Such games as, for example, the last Harvard-Princeton matches are enough to disgust the ordinary man with the whole game of baseball. Not only is the audience subjected to a continual chorus of yells from the players but the audience itself is encouraged to take a hand in the game by concerted cheering and calls. The result is that the visiting nine not only has to play against the home nine but it has to play also against the home audience.

This whole process is absolutely unfair. It is vulgar in the last extreme and college men ought to stop it. The college games of the old day, when each man did his work without screaming, were infinitely superior to the games of to-day in that respect, and they offered just as good an opportunity for team play as can be had by this indiscriminate yelping.

MILLS HOTEL FOR HORSES.

Indiana Business Man Landlord to Poor but Deserving Beasts.

A sort of Mills Hotel for horses has been opened in Evansville, Ind. It is the scheme of Adolph Meizer, described as a successful business man of that city.

When Mr. Meizer first thought of starting in as a benevolent landlord to poor but deserving work horses he visited other cities for the purpose of getting ideas, but found that there is no such institution as he intended to maintain. Accordingly his first step was to enlarge a barn he had on his own city property.

Stalls, both of the box and open design, to the number of fifty were built, convenient watering troughs were distributed through the place and many windows were inserted in the walls, says *Vogue*. What Mr. Meizer eventually hopes to do is to form a company of business men and incorporate this cheap hotel for horses, the owners to pay for the feed consumed computed at cost price, but the expense of running the barn to be borne by Mr. Meizer.

If an owner is too poor to pay for the animal's sustenance a plan will be devised whereby he can give labor of some kind, and in certain instances if a projected investigating committee find him worthy he will not be required to pay until comparatively prosperous.

Mr. Meizer besides looking after the health of his equine boarders will require that they have comfortable harness, assisting owners to provide it if they are unable to do so. He is also planning to give every overworked Evansville horse a few weeks vacation on a farm and to secure more stringent State laws in regard to the protection of animals. *Vogue* thinks that Mrs. Huntington Smith's (Boston) Home of Rest for Horses is the only institution resembling the Evansville philanthropy.

THE RAZORBACK HOG.

Menace to Hunters—Destroys Eggs and Young of Game Birds.

From Forest and Stream.

A North Carolina correspondent says that through the enforcing of the stock laws in the mountains of that State the ravages of the razorback hog are being curtailed.

"In a number of the Southern and middle Western States hogs are permitted to roam at will through the woods and river bottoms of sparsely settled regions. An attempt is made to mark them by means of notching, slitting or clipping the ears, an unsatisfactory method at best, and one which has caused many a neighborhood feud and the spilling of some human blood.

There is always a certain percentage of these hogs that cannot be claimed or taken up by any person, because proof of ownership is lacking, and as the practice has been in vogue for a great many years there are plenty of genuine wild hogs.

Whether or not the progenitors of the razorback hog were fat, slow going beasts, such as prosperous farmers own, we do not know. The fact is that the present woods rangers are long of leg, swift of foot and so lean that the term "razorback" is fairly appropriate. Accustomed to encounters with other woods prowlers in defence of their young, they have developed courage of a sort, and while they will not attack men they often set upon hunting dogs, invade camps and despoil everything within their reach.

In the regions infested by these scavengers the loss in eggs and the young of game birds is very large. Where there are no fences the razorbacks scour the woods so carefully that nothing they will eat escapes. They travel fast and far and rake the country as with a fine tooth comb; their sense of smell is highly developed, and the eggs and young of ground nesting birds are never safe when they are abroad.

Caught Big Salmon by Hand.

Astoria correspondence Portland Oregonian.

A thirty pound chinook salmon was literally caught by hand yesterday at the Oregon Railway and Navigation wharf by a man who saw it floundering in the mud after the tide had gone out.

It had evidently been caught in one of the holes on the inside of the wharf and as the tide receded was left in the mud. The captor took the string from his shoe and, slipping it through the gills of the salmon, brought it ashore.

ELDEST BORN NOT THE BEST

Continued from First Page.

audiences in Germany their look of commonplaceness, not to say untidiness. This class of German women, the critic says, is almost equally criminal in her attitude toward the crown of a woman's getup, the hat.

The Supreme Court of Germany has handed down a decision that is not very flattering, though it may be useful, to American dentists practising in that country. It has decided in effect that dentistry when practised by the American is a trade, to be distinguished from the profession followed by the German dentists, who are all "approved."

The German "approved" dentist is placed by the Supreme Court in the general category of doctors, who are not to be regarded as traders. American dentists, whether doctors or not, are not, in the court's view, in the same class; they are not organized by the State and they are not subject, like German doctors, to a special court of honor. They are consequently thrown into the category of "traders in healing" and can compete like other traders in the ways laid down by the civil law, by advertising, for example.

As matter of fact, the American dentist in Germany usually does a fine business, and no more frequently than German doctors or "approved" dentists falls short of the high standard of ethics and conduct that mark the healing professions in all civilized countries.

When Pius X. was patrician of Venice he made no attempt at hiding his sympathies with the reigning house of Italy, and he once told a friend that he regretted that a reconciliation between Italy and the Vatican was impossible. The Vatican, he said, could not be reconciled to the occupation of Rome, and a reconciliation would benefit neither the kingdom of Italy, which would lose the support of many loyal but anti-clerical supporters, nor the Holy See, which would lose its prestige among foreign Catholics.

The patriarch added that although a reconciliation was impossible there was no reason why the relations between the Vatican and the Quirinal should not be improved. Some time ago the Pope received in audience the Venetian friend to whom he had talked about a reconciliation many years before, and referring to the same subject said:

"What seemed possible in Venice is quite impossible under altered circumstances here in Rome."

Then the Pope with a sad smile explained to his old friend what he meant.

"Do you think that the Pope is free to do what he likes? Of course everybody thinks so, but it is a mistake. There are influences that cannot be overcome."

The Pope spoke of Venice and his great wish to see the city before he died.

"I am willing to go to Venice," he said, "even if I had to walk there, but I realize that I am destined to die inside the Vatican and that I shall never see Venice again."

The friend then remarked that the Vatican with its art treasures was a residence which afforded great compensations to the spirit and almost reconciled its occupant to voluntary imprisonment.

"Yes," answered the Pope, "but it lacks the sea, and the sea of Venice is always in my heart."

The Berlin branch of the Union of Machine Builders and Metal Workers has decided that for a provisional period of three months its members and their families are to eat no butter. It is expected that in the course of the next couple of weeks all the other workmen's organizations in Berlin will follow suit.

The reason for this movement is to be found in the present high price of butter, which has enhanced in cost by from 20 to 30 per cent. during the last six months. The promoters of the movement contend that the rise has been due to the action of the wholesale dealers, who they declare have accumulated vast stocks in their cold stores with the object of artificially elevating prices. The merchants of dairy produce, on the other hand, ascribe the increase to a deficiency in the fodder crop caused by the bad summer last year.

Butter in Berlin costs 32 and 36 cents a pound. Workmen say the price ought to be from 20 to 24 cents.

Before King Edward left London for Biarritz he learned that his revenue as Duke of Lancaster, the title under which he is staying in Biarritz, was increased last year by $5,000, bringing it up to $320,000 for the year. The result has not been attained without a good deal of thrift, but King Edward has the capacity of choosing excellent managers for his private affairs, and the result is the Duchy of Lancaster is proving one of the most profitable of his estates.

The Prince of Wales also finds himself richer this year than last from the revenue of his Cornwall duchy, which has been raised from $412,500 to $425,000.

After a busy nine years spent in the electrification of the old London underground railway and the equipment of the three new tubes James Chapman, the chief American railway engineer in the enterprise, is preparing to return home.

"It is safe to say," said Mr. Chapman, "that we could do twice the business we are now handling. The situation created in London with respect to passenger transit by the opening of these railways is exceedingly interesting, and it would really seem for the present at any rate that there are not enough travellers to go round."

Mr. Chapman sees no prospect for more London tubes at present. There is, he thinks, more philanthropy manifested by the tubes which American money has provided for London than most people who use them imagine, but it would be unreasonable to expect the flow of gold for this purpose to continue. The total expenditure of the allied companies on these tubes has been something like $85,000,000, and he added, "We shall have to increase our present heavy takings by quite 60 per cent. before the whole of this capital begins to show a return."

He considered it hopeless to look for the electrification of the English long distance traffic, at least in the present generation.

The Standard Oil Company's English subsidiary company, the Anglo-American Oil Company, is just finishing a luxurious office building in Queen Anne's Gate, a part of London previously uninvaded by commercial structures. The new building is of white stone and lavishly decorated.

There will be no indication on the building that it is an office. A grand staircase decorated with a new rose pink marble brought from Spain will lead into lofty rooms, the walls of which will be decorated with mahogany.

"So far as design is concerned," said Ernest Runtz, the architect, "this office might be a nobleman's mansion. Everywhere will be marble and mahogany. Instead of being cooped up in a stuffy office downtown the lucky heads of departments and clerical staff will find themselves in a superbly furnished building, light and airy and with one of the most beautiful views in London stretching away before their windows.

"Each director there are about half a dozen—has been personally consulted as regards the decorative scheme of his own room. The great oval shaped board room will be a magnificent apartment. Indeed this extraordinary building will open up an entirely new era in offices."

The business mansion will be ready in August, just when the view over the park will be most grateful to the eye. The cost of its erection will approach $500,000.

A curious law case, that of a man fighting for the ownership of his skeleton, has just been concluded at Stockholm. Twenty years ago Albert Vystroem signed a contract with the Royal Swedish Institute of Anatomy making over his body after death to the institution in return for a sum of money. Since then he has come into possession of a fortune and he was anxious to cancel his contract.

The matter was brought before the courts. Not only was the case decided against him but he was even ordered to pay damages to the institute for having extracted two teeth without its authorization, which was held to be in point of law a breach of contract.

Rhodesia Doing Well.

From the Exporters' Review.

The annual report recently issued by the directors of the British South Africa Company discloses that Rhodesia is developing with remarkable strides. For the year ended March 31, 1908, the company advanced to the various local railways no less than $1,400,000.

For the last fiscal year this item fell to $885,000, a decrease of more than half a million dollars, while the estimated amount that the company will be required to advance for the current year is only $100,000. In other words Rhodesia's railroads have now become practically self-supporting, with every indication that they will prove a source of substantial income in the near future.

A large packing company has recently bought 400,000 acres of ranching land in southern Rhodesia, one of the terms of the purchase being that the area must be fully stocked within five years. In the directors' report it is set forth that several mining companies have made rich "strikes," a factor that in itself is certain to attract additional attention to Rhodesia.

OATHS IN DIFFERENT LANDS.

French Have "be Least and Norwegians the Most to Say.

The ceremony of taking the oath has been known since earliest history. According to the *Green Bag* the only changes in form which have come in thousands of years have been due to the introduction of the Bible and the cross by Christian nations.

As administered in most of the English law courts the form of the oath is practically the same as that in the United States, though rather more ceremonious. In France it is perhaps the simplest. A crucifix above the Judge's seat is supposed to obviate the necessity of the witness handling either the cross or the Bible.

"You swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?" asks the Judge. And the witness, raising his right hand, answers: "I swear it."

In Austria a Christian witness is sworn before a crucifix placed between two lighted candles. Holding up his right hand the witness says: "I swear by God, the Almighty and All Wise, that I will speak the pure and full truth in answer to anything I may be asked by the Court."

If the witness is of the Jewish race he uses the same words, but places his hand on a Bible opened at the page on which appears the Third Commandment and the crucifix is removed.

In a Belgian court the witness says: "I will speak the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help me God and all the saints." No Bible is required in the administering of this oath.

The Italian witness generally takes the oath in a dramatic manner. Resting his hand on an open Bible he exclaims: "I will swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth!"

More ceremony attends the administering of an oath in a Spanish court. The witness kneels on his right knee and places his right hand on the sacred book. The Judge then asks: "Will you swear to God and by those holy gospels to speak the truth to all you may be asked?" The witness replies: "Yes, I swear," to which the Judge rejoins: "Then if thus you do God will reward you and if not will require of you."

In a few districts this form is varied by the witness placing the middle of his thumb on the middle of his forefinger, kissing his thumb and declaring "By this cross I swear."

It is to be hoped that the Norwegian witness is properly impressed with his obligation to speak the truth or considerable energy is wasted. He is required to raise his thumb, forefinger and middle finger, these signifying the Trinity. Before the oath is actually taken a long exhortation is delivered, running in part:

"Whatever person is so ungodly, corrupt or hostile to himself as to swear a false oath or not to keep the oath sworn sins in such a manner as if he were to say 'If I swear falsely, then may God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost punish me, so that God the Father who created me and all mankind in His image, and His fatherly goodness, grace and mercy, may not profit me, but that I as a perverse and obstinate transgressor and sinner may be punished eternally in hell. If I swear falsely, then may all I have and own in this world be cursed cursed be my land, field and meadow so that I may never enjoy any fruit or yield from them; cursed be my cattle, my beasts, my sheep, so that after this day they may never thrive or benefit me; yea, cursed may I be and everything I possess.'"

And sometimes all that—and all the rest of it—in the matter of a suit brought to collect for a pair of boots, perhaps.